

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CARACA 04451 211741Z

42

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2871

S E C R E T CARACAS 4451

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM SHLAUDEMANN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: APER

SUBJ: POSSIBLE NOMINATION

REF: STATE 95699

I AM FLATTERED AND GRATEFUL FOR THIS INDICATION OF THE SECRETARY'S CONFIDENCE IN ME--CONFIDENCE I HOPE I CAN CONTINUE TO MERIT. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT IF THE SECRETARY WERE TO DECIDE THAT HE REQUIRED ME IN THE ARA JOB, I WOULD TAKE IT ON GLADLY. BUT MY DECIDED PERSONAL PREFERENCE IS TO STAY WHERE I AM. I FIND CONSIDERABLE

PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SATISFACTION IN WHAT I AM DOING. AND A LOT REMAINS TO BE DONE. OUR RELATIONS WITH VENEZUELA ARE IMPORTANT AND I THINK WE NEED CONTINUITY DURING THIS TRANSITION PERIOD IN THE WAKE OF THE OIL NATIONALIZATION. WE HAVE A NUMBER OF TRICKY PROBLEMS THAT REQUIRE CAREFUL HANDLING. TO BREAK OFF AT THIS POINT THE PERSONAL DIALOGUE I HAVE ESTABLISHED WITH PEREZ AND HIS COLLEAGUES COULD BE DAMAGING. THERE IS THE POSSIBLE PROBLEM ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE EQUATION OF REVIVING THE PUBLIC ARGUMENT ABOUT CHILE AT A TIME WHEN OUR DOMESTIC SCENE IS MORE THAN SOMEWHAT HEATED. BUT YOU WOULD BE A BETTER JUDGE THAN I AS TO HOW THAT MIGHT PLAY OUT. AGAIN, MY OWN CHOICE WOULD BE TO STICK WITH THE JOB I HAVE.

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PAGE 02 CARACA 04451 211741Z

SHLAUDEMANN

SECRET

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